

## **Animals in the Library**

Service animals are allowed in all Cambridge Public Library locations. Pets are not allowed in any Cambridge Public Library building. It is a violation of Mass General Law: “Bringing animals into the library except those needed to assist persons with disabilities” (MGL, CH.272, Sec. 98A).

Effective March 15, 2011, the definition of service animals under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is restricted to dogs or miniature horses that are “individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability.”

The United States Justice Department has determined that emotional support animals, comfort animals and therapy dogs are not service animals covered by the ADA. Service animals are limited to trained dogs and miniature horses.

For more information on the definition and guidelines for service animals from the ADA, please visit:

<https://adata.org/publication/service-animals-booklet>